

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A method of forming an alignment layer of a liquid crystal display comprising the steps of:

- a) positioning a base in a preselected orientation within a filming apparatus;
- b) directing a vapor stream of a material to form an inorganic alignment layer for the positioned base, the stream directed at the base at an angle of 40 to 60 degrees with respect to a normal line of the base; and
- c) introducing oxygen gas into the filming apparatus and adjusting the gas pressure so as to: produce a pre-tilt angle of liquid crystals at an angle of at least 4 to 10 degrees; and to evaporate the material for forming the inorganic alignment layer on the base.

5. (Previously presented) The method of forming an alignment layer of a liquid crystal display element in accordance with claim 4, wherein the gas pressure of the oxygen gas is adjusted to be within the range 6×10^{-3} to 3×10^{-2} Pa.